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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3266
INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE
RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 2758
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 2087
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 0505
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 0226
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 0667
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 1838
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA 0002
RUEHBI/AMCONSUL MUMBAI 0048
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1442
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 4592

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 000560

SIPDIS

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREF](#) [PTER](#) [MASS](#) [SOCI](#) [EAID](#) [NL](#)
SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS: PUSHING SRI LANKA ON FREEDOM OF
MOVEMENT

REF: A. SECSTATE 92641
[1](#)B. THE HAGUE 313

Classified By: PolEcon Counselor Andrew C. Mann for reasons 1.5(b,d)

[1](#)1. (C) The Dutch support U.S. efforts to encourage the GSL to permit the free movement of IDPs. On September 14, post delivered ref A points to MFA Senior Policy Officer Andrea Nederlof, in the Department for Asia and Oceania. Nederlof responded that the Dutch ambassador in Colombo has been "very active" in engaging the GSL and has led EU joint efforts on human rights, particularly on the issue of freedom of speech. The Dutch position is to encourage the GSL to permit IDPs to return, to accept demining aid, and to address human rights violations.

[1](#)2. (C) In terms of aid, the Dutch recently approved one million euros for the Institute of Migration (IOM) for Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR). At the same time, due to rising income levels in Sri Lanka, the GONL is phasing out Sri Lanka as a "partner country" in 2010 (ref B).

[1](#)3. (C) At a multilateral level, Nederlof indicated the EU appears to support action against Sri Lanka, although it will not take up the issue at the September 14-15 GAERC meeting but rather in October after the completion of a report on limiting trade preferences for Sri Lanka. The Dutch support the idea of EU guidelines on non-humanitarian aid that require the GSL to address IDP return and human rights issues. In New York, Minister for Development Cooperation Koenders will meet with UN U/SYG Holmes regarding Sri Lanka during the UNGA, September 21-24.
LEVIN